

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An anisotropic conductive adhesive agent for electrically connecting first terminals and second terminals, the second terminals being thicker than the first terminals, the agent comprising:

a first adhesive layer; and

a second adhesive layer wherein the first adhesive layer and the second adhesive layer are formed of the same material;

wherein:

the first adhesive layer includes a plurality of electrically conductive particles;

the second adhesive layer is laminated onto the first adhesive layer;

the second adhesive layer is thicker than the first adhesive layer;

a particle diameter of the electrically conductive particles is smaller than a thickness of the first adhesive layer;

the first adhesive layer adapted for application to the first terminals;

and

the second adhesive layer adapted for application to the second terminals; and

a boundary existing between the first adhesive layer and the second adhesive layer.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented) The anisotropic conductive adhesive agent according to claim 1, wherein the material of both the first adhesive layer and the second adhesive layer is an insulating adhesive agent.

4. (original) The anisotropic conductive adhesive agent according to claim 1, wherein the particle diameter of the electrically conductive particles is smaller than $\frac{1}{2}$ of the thickness of the first adhesive layer.

5. (currently amended) The anisotropic conductive adhesive agent according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of electrically conductive particles are unevenly distributed within the first adhesive layer and in a plane adjacent to ~~an interface of the~~ the boundry between the first and second adhesive layers.

6. (currently amended) An anisotropic conductive adhesive agent for electrically connecting first terminals and second terminals, the second terminals being thicker than the first terminals, the agent comprising:

a first adhesive layer including a plurality of electrically conductive particles dispersed therein and adjacent a lamination surface of the first adhesive layer; and

a second adhesive layer laminated onto the lamination surface of the first adhesive layer, the second adhesive layer being thicker than the first adhesive layer;

a boundary existing between the first adhesive layer and the second adhesive layer; and

wherein a particle diameter of the electrically conductive particles is smaller than a thickness of the first adhesive layer and the conductive particles are aligned at a terminal connection position within the conductive adhesive agent adjacent to the boundary, the first adhesive layer adapted for application to the first terminals, and the second adhesive layer adapted for application to the second terminals.

7. (currently amended) An anisotropic conductive adhesive agent for electrically connecting first terminals and second terminals, the second terminals being thicker than the first terminals, the agent comprising:

a first adhesive layer;

a second adhesive layer laminated onto the first adhesive layer and being thicker than the first adhesive layer; and

a plurality of electrically conductive particles included within the first adhesive layer;

wherein a particle diameter of the electrically conductive particles is smaller than a thickness of the first adhesive layer, and the electrically conductive particles are unevenly distributed along a second adhesive layer facing side of the first adhesive layer, the first adhesive layer adapted for application to the first terminals, and the second adhesive layer adapted for application to the second terminals; and
a boundary existing between the first adhesive layer and the second adhesive layer.

8. (currently amended) An anisotropic conductive adhesive agent for electrically connecting first and second terminals, the second terminals being thicker than the first terminals, the agent comprising:
a first adhesive layer;
a second adhesive layer laminated onto the first adhesive layer and being thicker than the first adhesive layer; and
a plurality of electrically conductive particles dispersed substantially within the first adhesive layer;
wherein:
a particle diameter of the electrically conductive particles is smaller than a thickness of the first adhesive layer;
the first adhesive layer is adapted for application to the first terminals; ~~and~~
the second adhesive layer is adapted for application to the second terminals; and

a boundary existing between the first adhesive layer and the second adhesive layer.

9. (currently amended) A connecting structure, comprising:

- first terminals;
- second terminals being thicker than the first terminals;
- an anisotropic conductive adhesive agent electrically connecting the first terminals to the second terminals;
- a first adhesive layer included within the anisotropic conductive adhesive agent and adapted for application to the first terminals;
- a second adhesive layer laminated onto the first adhesive layer and being thicker than the first adhesive layer and adapted for application to the second terminals;
- and
- a plurality of electrically conductive particles included within the first adhesive layer and having a particle diameter smaller than a thickness of the first adhesive layer; and

wherein the anisotropic conductive adhesive agent has a boundary between the first adhesive layer and the second adhesive layer before the first terminals are connected to the second terminals.

10. (currently amended) A connecting structure having first and second substrates, the structure comprising:

- first terminals mounted on the first substrate;

second terminals mounted on the second substrate and facing the first terminals, the second terminals being taller with respect to the second substrate than the first terminals with respect to the first substrate;

an anisotropic conductive adhesive agent electrically connecting the first terminals to the second terminals, the agent including:

a first adhesive layer oriented toward the first terminals;

a second adhesive layer laminated onto the first adhesive layer, the second adhesive layer oriented toward the second terminals; [[and]]

the anisotropic conductive adhesive agent having a boundary between the first adhesive layer and the second adhesive layer before the first terminals are connected to the second terminals; and

a plurality of electrically conductive particles dispersed substantially in a plane within the first adhesive layer adjacent to the boundary.[[;]]

11. (new) The structure of claim 10 wherein:

the first and second adhesive layers have outer surfaces; the outer surface of the first adhesive layer lying on a surface of the first substrate, and the outer surface of the second adhesive layer lying on an opposing surface of the second substrate; and

said conductive particles being arranged substantially in a plane spaced inboard from the outer surface of the first adhesive layer by a distance substantially the same as the thickness of the first terminal;

whereby the conductive particles remain substantially in place during assembly of the structure when the substrates are pressed together.